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1939 FOREST INSECT SURVEY, LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST

The 1939 forest insect survey of the Frazer Mountain, Mt. Pinos and Figueroa Areas in this forest was made by Senior Entomologist Miller and Assistant Conservationist Carlson on October 31 and November 15, 1939. The entire cost of the survey was borne by the Forest Insect Laboratory, Berkeley, California.

METHOD OF SURVEY

The limited extent of forest type in the areas surveyed was examined by (1) foot travel, (2) counts from road traverses, (3) counts from lookout points, and vantage points. District Ranger Puhn and Forest Guard De Tracy assisted in the survey.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Endemic infestations prevail on the areas examined. Through cooperation with the State Park Service, trees infested with summer broods have been removed from accessible areas on Figueroa Mountain. This work, along with the recent control work by the Forest Service, has undoubtedly been successful in keeping the infestation at its present level.

TYPE OF INFESTATION

The infestation at present is one of western pine beetle, Dendroctonus brevicomis Lec., in ponderosa and Coulter pine on the Figueroa area; some flathead activity also has been observed in digger and Jeffrey pine. Infestation in the Mt. Pinos and Frazer Mountain areas is largely flatheads in Jeffrey pine. The topkilling in Jeffrey pine and Ips infestation in pinon pine which were prevalent in this area were not active at this examination.

CONDITIONS ON UNIT AREAS

1. Frazer Mountain. Infestation endemic. There is some flathead activity in Jeffrey pine. Several small pinon pine in the Chuchupate campground were dead or dying, but showed no evidence of insect attack or injury. It is believed that their death and unhealthy appearance is a result of physiological conditions. The scale (Matsucoccus spp.) infestation on Pinon pine in the vicinity of the Chuchupate Ranger Station has not increased and has not resulted in the death of any trees. Cold injury to trees on Frazer Mountain is very noticeable and to outward appearances would be taken for insect damage. Ranger Puhn explained that the condition is a result of high wind last winter which was accompanied with subnormal temperatures. The 1939 loss in this unit is estimated at 10 trees.

2. Mt. Pinos. Infestation endemic. A few trees are being killed by flatheads. The 1939 loss is estimated to be 15 trees.

3. East Pinery. Infestation endemic. The 1939 loss is estimated to be 5 trees. Control recommended.

4. Figueroa Mountain. Infestation is scattered throughout the area and is probably more active than it appears to be due to summer control work. The 1939 estimated loss is 35 trees. Maintenance control is recommended for winter of 1939-40.

5. Zaca Peak. Infestation is similar to that on Figueroa Mountain. The 1939 loss is estimated to be 15 trees. Control is recommended.

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED 1939 LOSSES

Unit	1939 loss No. Trees	Action Recommended	Method of Control	Estimated No. Trees Requiring Treatment
Mt. Pinos	15	None		
Frazer Mtn.	10	None		
East Pinery	5	Control	Peel and burn	5
Figueroa Mtn.	35	Control	" " "	6
Zaca Peak	15	Control	" " "	9
Totals	80			20

RECOMMENDATIONS

Artificial control by the peeling and burning method, to be completed by May 1, 1940 is recommended for the East Pinery, Zaca Peak and Figueroa Mountain.

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Berkeley, California
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